

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus comprising:

    a substrate stage on which a substrate is held, the substrate stage being movable while holding the substrate;

    a projection optical system through which an image of a pattern is projected onto the substrate held by the substrate stage when the substrate is disposed adjacent to a final optical element of the projection optical system, a liquid being provided in a space between the final optical element and the substrate so as to contact the final optical element and the substrate; and

    a detection apparatus that detects whether the liquid is present on an object that is disposed lower than the final optical element of the projection optical system at a time when the image of the pattern is projected by the projection optical system onto the substrate, the object being at least one of the substrate stage, the substrate and a member that moves with the substrate stage.

2. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:

    the detection apparatus has an emitting portion that emits detection light and a light receiving portion.

3. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:

    the detection light is emitted from the emitting portion to a plurality of positions, and at least one of a size and a shape of the liquid on the object is obtained based on a light receiving result of the light receiving portion.

4. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:

the detection apparatus performs the detection while the detection light and the object are relatively moved.

5. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein:  
the object is movable with respect to the projection optical system.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising:  
a bending portion spaced from the liquid and that bends an optical path of the detection light.
8. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:  
the detection light travels through the space between the final optical element and the substrate substantially parallel to a surface of the substrate.
9. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein:  
whether the liquid is present in an optical path of the detection light is determined based on a light receiving result of the light receiving portion.
10. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein:  
the detection light passes through an area away from the surface of the object by 5.5 mm or less than 5.5 mm.
11. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:  
a position of the liquid on the object is obtained based on a light receiving result of the light receiving portion.
12. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:  
the emitting portion emits the detection light to the space between the final optical element and the substrate.

13. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:  
the emitting portion emits the detection light to a surface of the object.
14. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 13,

wherein:

the light receiving portion receives light from the surface of the object, and the liquid on the surface of the object can be detected based on the light receiving result.

15. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 13,

wherein:

the surface of the object includes a recessed portion formed on the object.

16. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 15,

wherein:

the object is the substrate stage, and the recessed portion is provided in the substrate stage, and a substrate holder that holds the substrate is disposed in the recessed portion, and the detection apparatus also detects whether liquid is present on the substrate holder at a time when the substrate is not held on the substrate holder.

17. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 16,

wherein:

the emission of the detection light to the substrate holder is performed before loading the substrate on the substrate holder.

18. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:  
the detection light is infrared light.

19. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:  
the detection light includes a sheet light flux.

20. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a liquid supply system having a supply port, that supplies the liquid;  
a liquid recovery system having a recovery port, that recovers the liquid; and  
a controller that controls an operation of at least one of the liquid supply  
system and the liquid recovery system based on a detection result of the detection apparatus.

21. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 20,

wherein:

the controller stops the supply of the liquid by the liquid supply system if it is  
determined that the detection result of the detection apparatus is abnormal.

22. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:

an exposure operation is controlled based on a detection result of the detection  
apparatus.

23. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:

a warning is issued if it is determined that a detection result of the detection  
apparatus is abnormal.

24. - 47. (Canceled)

48. (Previously Presented) A device manufacturing method comprising:

exposing the substrate through the projection optical system of the exposure  
apparatus according to Claim 1; and

processing the exposed substrate.

49. - 51. (Canceled)